

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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The White Soldiers...
inside p. 2

The Three Soldiers



1. Because her father's Royal palace had been surrounded by a great army of soldiers, Princess Griselda thought of a clever plan to get rid of them. "They demand the return of the magic cloak and magic purse which I took from two of the soldiers," she said, "But if I also get hold of the magic horn I can soon remove them." Dressed as a gipsy singer she went to the camp.

2. There she danced and sang songs so beautifully that all the soldiers gathered around her and the tents were left empty. And among the soldiers was the one to whom the magic horn belonged. "How sweetly the girl sings," he said to his companions. "She could charm a bird from a tree." Griselda smiled, and intending only to charm away the magic horn, she gave her maid a signal.



3. The maid slipped quietly through the crowd and went into the tent where the magic horn hung, and took it away without anyone seeing her. "So far, so good," she said, with a sigh of relief. "Now to carry out the second part of the Princess's plan. She said that I was to blow upon the horn as loudly as I could."



4. When the maid did this a strange thing happened. The army, the tents, the cannons and the horses all disappeared in a great flash of light. Nothing was left but the empty slopes and the three soldier companions, who had now lost all three of their wonderful gifts. Poor fellows, they wondered what to do next.



5. "Now we are back to where we started, comrades," said the soldier who had once had the magic purse. "We have no money and no home, so we had better separate. Let each seek his fortune as best he can." This was agreed by the other two, who decided to stick together and in this way the soldiers parted company.



6. The soldier who went on his own wandered on, but discovered nothing to cheer him in the countryside. By nightfall he was weary and hungry and he came to a forest. Now, this forest was the one where the three of them had met with so much good luck before, but the soldier fell asleep, too tired to think of it.



7. Morning dawned and he opened his eyes. "Oh, what wonder of wonders!" he exclaimed as he looked around. "Here am I in need of food and there above me are tree-branches laden with ripe apples. Now at least I shall not starve. I only wish that my two companions were with me to share in this good fortune."

See what happens to the soldier's nose in next week's part of this delightful tale.



8. The hungry soldier soon plucked and ate an apple, then a second and then a third. "They have a more delicious taste than any apples I have ever known," he said. But a strange feeling came over his nose. With each bite from the third apple his nose began to grow longer and longer and longer.



When you pick up a puppy, let it sit on your arm, using the other arm to hold it gently to you. If the puppy starts to struggle, lower it to the floor, because an animal held against its will is likely to get frightened and may injure itself when trying to jump down.



Because mice are so small, they must be handled gently. Never pick a mouse up by its tail—it will become frightened, and may bite. Hold the mouse in the palm of your hand, putting two fingers gently round its body, using your other hand to hold the base of its tail.



All Sorts of Ways



Rabbits should not be picked up by their ears, although you may use its ears to stop it moving on a table. Lift it up by the loose skin at the scruff or nape of the neck, and while doing so, support the rabbit's rear. These animals like to feel secure, so hold it close to you.



A kitten likes to be supported under its rear, so that it is in a sitting position. Use your other hand to hold its body, leaving the front legs free. Its claws may catch in your clothes and if not freed by you will cause the kitten pain. So be very careful when picking it up.

Like mice, hamsters should be carefully handled. Let the hamster settle in the palm of your hand, ensuring that its little feet are not being squashed. For carrying, it is better that you cup your other hand over its body in case the hamster moves and suddenly falls.



Fish are very tricky to handle, because your hand could damage their bones. When taking them out of a fish tank, use a fine net, and make sure that your hands are wet and cool. Make sure that the fish are not left out of the water for too long because they will die.



of Handling Pets



Pigeons prefer not to be handled too much, but if you do have to hold one, make sure that one hand clasps its body and wings. If the wings are left free the bird may flap them, and there is a danger that they will get broken. Support the feet and tips of the wings also.



Like pigeons, guinea pigs do not enjoy being held, but when carried around, prefer to rest on the palm of your hand. Use your other hand to support its body but do not clutch the animal tightly or it will struggle and may bite. Do not forget to hold the animal's legs.





BRER RABBIT

This week . . . Brer Rabbit builds a house of logs.

B RER WOLF and Brer Fox were most annoyed with Brer Rabbit. What with his tricks and pranks and one thing and another, they decided they had many scores to settle with Brer Rabbit.

Now, in those days, Brer Rabbit had a flimsy house made of thin planks and a straw roof. It was not very strong at all, and one day, when he got back from a walk, he caught Brer Wolf and Brer Fox in the act of pushing it over on its side.

Now, Brer Rabbit was mighty fed-up with this, because the same thing happened several times. And each time, Brer Wolf and Brer Fox laughed and laughed.

What Brer Rabbit needed was a strong, safe house, and he took a stroll down by the river. And there on the bank was Brer Beaver, gnawing down some tree trunks.

"You're working mighty hard this fine day, Brer Beaver," said Brer Rabbit. "And that's a fine house you've built for yourself in the middle of the river."

"Very fine, very fine," said Brer Beaver. "Building is my trade, you know, Brer Rabbit. Why, I could even build a great big house on land if I tried."

"Could you now?" asked Brer Rabbit. "One so strong that Brer Wolf and Brer Fox could not push over?"

"No trouble at all," boasted Brer Beaver. "Why, if I couldn't build a house that nobody could push over, I'd give up building for good, so I would."

Now this was what cunning Brer Rabbit had been

after all the time and he scampered back home, lickety-split, feeling very pleased with himself.

As soon as Brer Beaver had finished his own house, he set to work to cut down more trees, then got his family and friends to roll them to the place where Brer Rabbit wanted his new house built.

They sawed and hammered and nailed and piled the logs up higher and higher, until they had soon built Brer Rabbit a fine log cabin, so strong that a dozen animals might huff and puff and push but would never topple it over.

Brer Rabbit was delighted when he saw it, "Why, Brer Beaver," he said, "I do declare that everything you have said is true. There is no better builder than you in the whole world." And Brer Beaver went off feeling mighty pleased with himself, to look for something else to build.

Then Brer Rabbit called his family together and told them the new house was ready and in they went. After that Brer Rabbit got plenty of peace and quiet. He could go out and pass the time of day with his friends, or take his family out for the day, without the fear that he would come home and find that his house had been pushed over.

Just as Brer Beaver had promised, the log house was too big and strong for Brer Wolf and Brer Fox to push over. They did have a try and they huffed and they pushed with all their might—but all they got out of it were two pairs of very sore paws. In the end they gave it up and left Brer Rabbit safe and snug inside his fine log cabin house.

Another Brer Rabbit story for you next week.



STONE



Stone is taken from the earth by drilling holes in the rock face and filling them with explosives. After the explosion, the rocks are split into manageable shapes, by hand before being brought to the surface. In the factories, large cutting wheels saw the stone into the shapes and sizes wanted. You can see such a wheel in our picture. In the sketch below, are men building with slabs of patterned stone. The design on stone is put on by men called stone-masons, and these craftsmen have much patience and create some wonderful designs. Very hard-wearing, buildings made of stone will often stand for hundreds of years.



This is a Memory Test. When you have read this story, turn to page 16 and see if you can answer the questions there.

The Giant Turtle

The dark depths of the ocean hold many forms of life, including plants, fishes, and mammals. The giant turtle seen in the picture is a mammal, and lives for the most part of the year in the sea.

Turtles look rather like large lizards, having the same shaped shell and head. But the legs of the turtle look like paddles and enable it to swim very fast.

Tortoiseshell has been used in the making of combs, brushes, hair slides, and spectacle frames, and is got from the hawksbill turtle. Fortunately, for the turtle, artificial tortoiseshell, made from plastic has replaced the real thing, and now few are hunted for their beautiful shell.

Divers find turtles fun. They are harmless mammals and will not mind one little bit if a diver hitches a ride on its back.

Unlike the turtle, which can dive to any depth, divers have to make sure that they do not swim down too far. A pressure gauge, worn on the wrist (see picture) will give the depth of the water.

Only once, do the turtles leave the sea, and then it is to lay eggs. The land holds many dangers for them and they will not leave the water until sure that there are no humans or wild-life about that may do them harm.

The landing is usually carried out in the night, and the turtles march to the highest point on the beach where they will be safe

from floods and high tides. The eggs are laid in holes made by the turtles, using their strong legs.

Young turtles, when hatched, will bite their way through the sand, and the sand will often remain in their mouths during their journey back to the sea. This is a time of danger for these baby mammals because the frigate birds, which fly over the coasts, are constantly on the alert for baby turtles and will pick them up as they travel across the sand. Some do, however, reach the water.

Instinct guides the youngsters to the sea, and nothing, not even hills and rocks, will stand in their way. This gift of the turtles has baffled men for many years and will probably remain one of nature's strange mysteries.

The Frog

DELIGHTED that she had got the ball, which had fallen down a palace. By the time she ran about the frog which had fetched promises she had made.

"Hello, my dear, you are just in time. Where have you been?"

"It was such a lovely evening that I replied the princess, not thinking I did not know it was getting so late. I am so hungry."

The king and the princess sat and could be served there was a stranger.

"Whoever can that be?" asked the

The princess went to open the door to the frog.

"I have come for you to keep your word. But the princess examined the door and asked her what was the matter."

"It is only a nasty old frog, who wishes to sleep beside me on my pillow."

"Why should a frog wish to do that?" asked the king, puzzled.

So the princess told him all that had happened. The golden ball down the well by accident to the efforts of the frog.

"I made some silly promises at first, but the frog could live here in my room, on the pillow beside me at night. But the promises when they were only made."

The king looked sternly at her. "You must keep your promise, whether it be made to a frog or to the door and invite the frog in."

"Do I have to do it, father?" asked the princess.

"Yes, indeed you do and let me see you do it."

"If you made a promise then you must keep it."

The princess went to the door and the frog, bounding towards the princess.

"Now, lift me up, so that I may see the world," said the frog.

The princess had to obey. She put the frog on a small cushion and tied a napkin round its neck.

"Very well, then, you may share my dinner," said the king.

"And an excellent supper it is," said the frog. "That it is better than the fare I obtain in your garden. It's really quite delicious."

So the frog made a good meal of the princess just sat and watched him. The king and the princess did nothing.

She was wondering about her fate. She was to sleep on the pillow of her bed. She thought of it.

More of this enchanting story in the next issue of *Once Upon A Time* next week.



Prince

back her most precious toy, a golden bowl, the princess hurried back to the well where she had almost forgotten the golden ball for her—and of the

time for supper, her father greeted her

at, stayed by the well in the garden, important to tell him about the frog. "but indeed I am ready for my supper

down at the table, but before the meal a rap-tapping noise on the door a king.

up and there to her horror, stood the

of three promises to me," said the frog, with a scowl that made the king look

wants to live in the palace, eat from my bowl," said the startled princess.

such things?" asked the king, looking

ed happened—how she had thrown the ball and how she had got it back, thanks

the king, father, she ended up, said palace eat from my plate and sleep on a chair, surely do not have to keep such a promise to a frog?"

A princess should always keep her word to anyone, he told her. Now go to the palace without delay.

the princess, with a little shudder, heard no more argument, said the king,

not keep it.

and opened it, in hoped the king's chair at the table.

at from your golden plate, he

placed the frog up, set it on a chair and its neck.

my supper as I promised," she

breathed the frog, must say to me from the bottom of the well.

from the golden plate, but the king's horse could hardly eat

and promise—to allow the frog to eat what was quite cold at the

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The Magic Garden



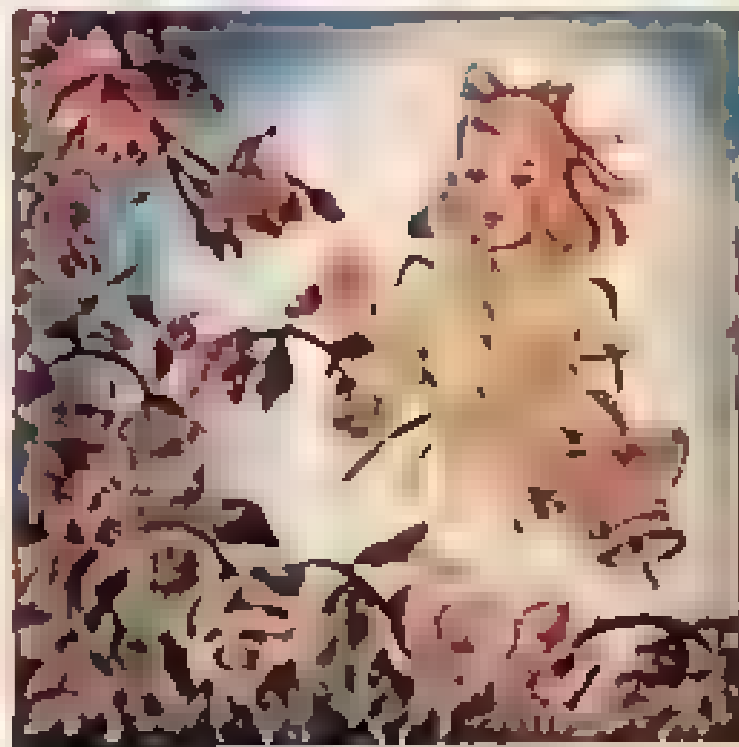
1. The woman in the white dress and hat was looking at the gate. The gate was very old and had many flowers growing around it. The woman was very beautiful and had a very nice hat. The gate was made of iron and was very ornate. The woman was standing in the garden and looking at the gate. The garden was very beautiful and had many flowers. The woman was looking at the gate for a long time. The gate was very old and had many flowers growing around it. The woman was very beautiful and had a very nice hat. The gate was made of iron and was very ornate. The woman was standing in the garden and looking at the gate. The garden was very beautiful and had many flowers. The woman was looking at the gate for a long time.



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It was a very hot day, and the sun was shining brightly. The man was looking at the ground, and he saw a small object. He picked it up and looked at it. It was a small, round object, and he was sure it was a rose. He was very happy, and he was going to give it to his daughter. He was going to give it to her when she came home. He was going to give it to her when she came home. He was going to give it to her when she came home.



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Beautiful Paintings

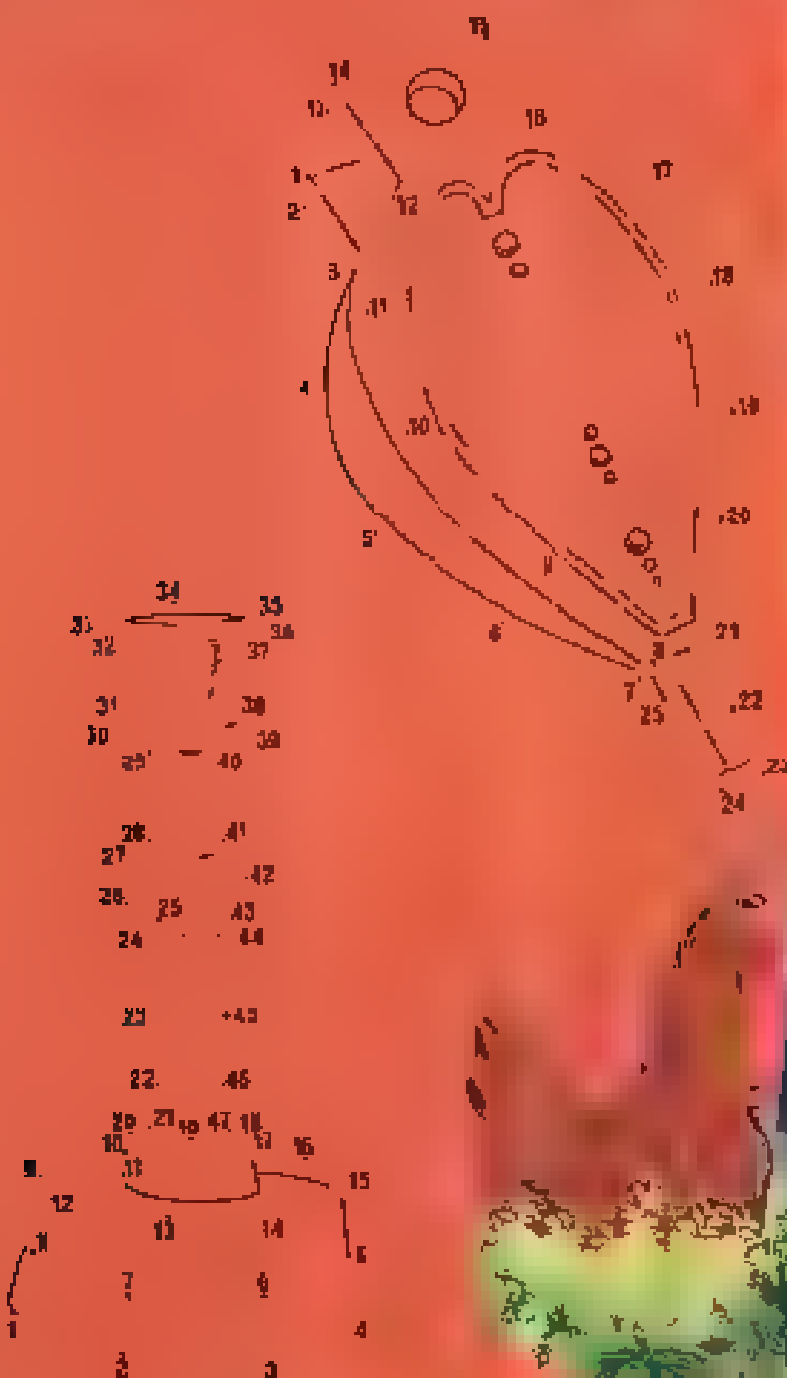
The scene is peaceful, but danger lurks for the roebuck deer in this beautiful painting. The huntmen are chasing him and he stops to listen to the sound of galloping horses, the loud barked orders of the hounds, and the toll-toll of the huntman's horn, all of which are coming nearer with the passing of each minute.

Perhaps he will manage to fool the hunters and escape the cruel dogs. Who knows? Perhaps the painter of this delightful painting knew the fate of the deer. He is Gustave Courbet, a French artist famous for his hunting scenes. This picture is called "Roebuck Hunted on the Watch" and is one to keep

A Puritan Lady

This is a picture of a Puritan lady. Her husband would probably be a soldier in Oliver Cromwell's army who were fighting King Charles and the Cavaliers. The Puritans believed in wearing the simplest of clothes and you can see from this picture that the lady's dress is made of a plain material and has no lace trimmings. Dancing and many other forms of entertainment were also frowned upon by the Puritans.

Join the dots, starting at No. 1 to draw some fine bellows which were used to blow air on to a newly-made fire so that it would burn well. At the bottom of this page is a pewee candlestick, also of the period. Join the dots, starting at No. 1 to draw this.





The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse²

This week Winkfred and Bertie got wet

WINFRED'S boy-friend, Bertie, who worked for Farmer Hayseed, had just fetched a nice, new tractor which the farmer had bought and he could hardly wait to try it out!

Bertie was up at the crack of dawn and out in the fields with his new tractor. He

down the other, whistling to himself loudly at the time, because he was enjoying himself so much.

It seemed to Bertie that in no time at all he had ploughed the field and off he went into the next field.

This was quite different. Instead of being level and straight it sloped down to

d better be careful with this one.

Everything was all right until suddenly the tractor hit a big boulder which was half-buried in the ground. The tractor bounced into the air and Bertie bounced right up off the seat and down again, but while Bertie was going up, the tractor was still going along, so when Bertie came

the ground.

"Ouch," said Bertie. It was hard. Unfortunately, he didn't stop there, because he was on a steep slope and he rolled, over and over until he fell splashy into the river. "Ooh!" yelled Bertie even louder, because the river was cold.

The tractor didn't jolt him, because and was chugging away in one spot.

Now just as Bertie shot up into the air, who should be coming along but Winkfred. She was a kind and thoughtful mouse and she had decided that Bertie might like some hot tea and sandwiches, because it was quite a chilly day, so she packed up the sandwiches and a flask of

Bertie

With Winkfred was Nigel, her cousin. Stephanie's boy-friend Nigel had driven

really did want to see the tractor at work. The first thing they saw was poor Bertie swooning up into the air and then rolling down the hill and then they heard a big splash and knew that he had landed in the river.

Quick, cried Winkfred. Bertie might be hurt." And she ran as fast as she could along the bank.

Bertie was just putting himself out as they got to him, and Winkfred was so anxious to help that she leaned over to grab him, slipped on some mud and

of them wet and dripping and covered with water weed.

"I'll go and switch the tractor off and then we'll get back to Winkfred's cottage," said Nigel, who was really quite good in

Oh, thank-you," said Bertie.

Nigel switched off the tractor engine and then he marched Bertie and Winkfred back to the cottage as fast as they could go. Stephanie was waiting there, for she had come in the car with Nigel and she took one look at them and went straight off and found clean, dry towels and clean, dry clothes.

When she had found clothes for Bert and Winkfred, she put the kettle on and made the tea.

Bertie and Winkfred went off to change their clothes, but suddenly there was a loud "Oooh!" from Bertie. "Ooh, I can move my arm," he called. Nigel had to help him out of his wet clothes and into his dry ones.

tractor again until your arm's better," said Nigel, when Bertie was dressed.

"No," sighed Bertie. "But what poor

Farmer Hayseed is going to do. I can't think. There's the rest of the ploughing to do and I can't drive the tractor."

Just then, a thought seemed to strike Nigel and he began to smile. "But," can he said, "I'll do the ploughing for you, Bertie. It won't take me long and it will be

Bertie began to look much happier and just then Winkfred appeared.

Oh, Nigel, how nice of you to offer, said Winkfred.

They all sat down to tea and Winkfred opened her mouth to say "Thank you to Stephanie for making it, but instead of 'Thank you' all that came out was

Stephanie sighed. "It sounds as if you've caught cold, Winkfred," she said. "You'd better go straight to bed after you've had your tea. I suppose if Nigel's going to drive that silly tractor, I'd better stay and see that you're all right."

Stephanie packed Winkfred off to bed and Winkfred didn't feel a bit like arguing.

What a nuisance," Stephanie grumbled to herself, as she washed up the tea things in Winkfred's cottage. "Bertie and impossible. They can't do a simple little thing like a tractor. Oh, well, it can't be helped. But hope it doesn't last too long."

More adventures with the story mice in next week's Once Upon A Time.

1. What species of turtle gives the story its name? 2. Where do the female turtles lay their eggs?

1. What species of turtle gives the story its name?
2. Where do the female turtles lay their eggs?



Mendoza

Tiny Tim and the Forest Giant



1 Once upon a time, in the forest lands of Europe, there lived a woodman who had seven sons. They were all happy lads, and the youngest was so small that they called him Tiny Tim. All day long they worked in the forest, cutting down the big trees.

2 "Here is a fine log, father," said the eldest son. "Shall we float it down the river to the building yard to be used for the strong timbers of a ship?" "No, my son," the woodman sighed. "It would take too long and we need to have money at once."



3 So the tree trunk was chopped into logs for a fire, but the money received for it was very poor. In fact, it was so little that in hardly any time at all the logs they bought with it was gone—because of all the hungry mouths that had to be fed. "Oh, what can be done about it?" sobbed the woodcutter's wife.



4 That night when the children had gone up to bed, the woodman and his wife sat up talking about their problem. They did not notice that Tiny Tim had got out of bed and was listening. "I must take the children into the forest and lose them," said the woodman. "A kind person may find them and look after them."



5. Next morning, before anyone else of the family was awake, Tiny Tim crept out of the house and went down to the bank of the stream. There he picked out a lot of small, white stones and filled his pockets with them. He had thought of a plan.



6. "Come along boys," the woodman said to the seven sons, a little later in the morning. "Today we are going for a very long walk, which will take us deep into the forest where you have not been before. I hope to find a very special large oak tree."

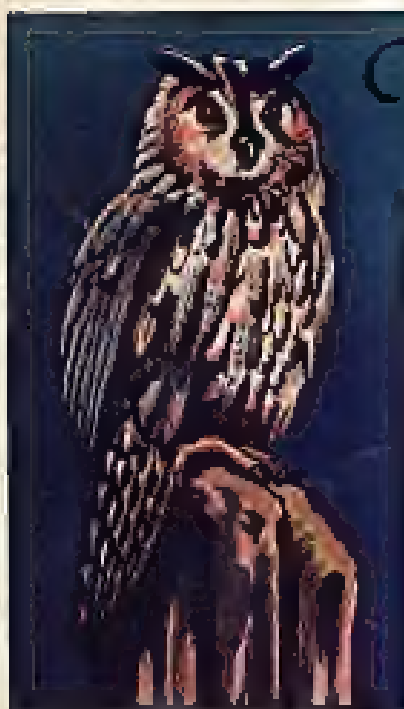


7. On the long walk, Tiny Tim was careful to remain behind all the others and, every few steps, he dropped one of the white pebbles from his pockets. The other boys had no idea what their father had in mind and they enjoyed being in a part of the deep forest which was strange. They romped and played and shouted.

Next week you will see what happens to Tiny Tim and his six lost brothers.



8. The woodman led them deeper and deeper into the forest and the children did not mind being so far away from home. As they ran races and played games they never thought of how they were to get back home. And their woodman father, now greatly upset, crept away. Silently and sadly, he left them and returned home.



The WISE OLD OWL

Knows all the answers

Here is the Wise Old Owl again to answer all your puzzling questions.



1. Why is the country of Japan sometimes called Nippon?

"Japan lies to the east of China and the sun rises over it, so the Chinese called it Jihpen, which means the Land of the Rising Sun. The Japanese called it Nippon, their version of the Chinese name Jihpen—which we in Britain say it as Japan. The flag shown is the Japanese Navy ensign."



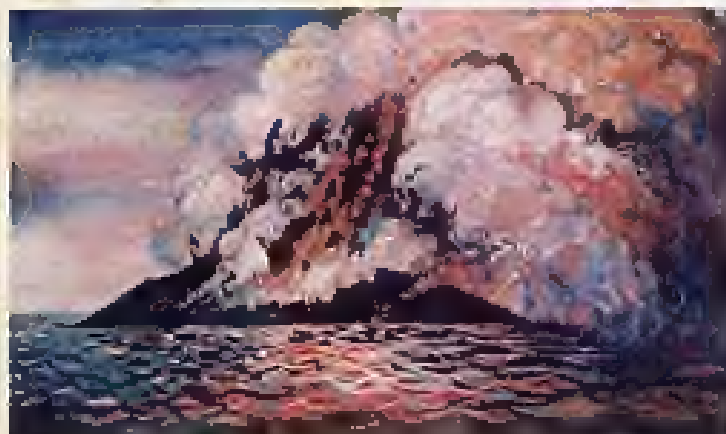
2. Do cats live to a great age?

"One year of a cat's life is equal to seven years of the life of a human being, which means that a six-year-old cat is as old as a person of 42. The average life of a cat is about ten years, which is equal to a human's average life of 70 years. Some cats do live longer than ten years—the oldest known died aged 34."



3. Why don't wrens visit our garden bird-tables?

"Wrens hardly ever visit bird-tables in search of scraps of food as do sparrows, starlings, blue-bills and other birds. One reason is that the wren is a very tiny bird and likes to keep away from others. Another reason is that it lives on insects, and can find them in crevices and places where bigger birds cannot reach."



4. Which is the oldest island in the world?

"Nobody really knows which is the oldest island, but one of the newest is the island of Surtsey, formed in 1963 by lava from a volcano which erupted beneath the sea, south of Iceland."



5. How did the gorilla get its name?

"This animal, the biggest of the ape family, lives in Africa. Its name comes from an African word meaning 'wild, hairy man'. Gorillas are strong, but not dangerous if they are left alone."